American Women Missionaries and Pioneers Collection

Part 1: Missionaries

The Irene Forsythe Hanson Papers, 1921-1980

Series I

Correspondence
(Incoming and outgoing intermixed)

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January 18, 1933

Dearest Mummie Precious!

It has been a couple of weeks since writing the last letter at Hua Li'Chuang Much has happened since then Jan 18th. This letter I began & then wrote the other, this check I forgot to enclose I'll not endorse it but return it & you rewrite a check for the reports or keep it for mailing etc.

Tonight I want to visit a little while I had a busy day - shopping & planning. I'se for two years not invited any foreigners to a meal, many Chinese but the last year at Mrs. Hawkins I was frequently invited out & this year each time I come in I get invited many times & so at last I'm having one plunge & inviting 20 guests tomorrow night for chicken food. Mrs. Reinhardt who lives in the other side of the house said to use her rooms - so will have 12 at one table in her dining room & 8 here at my table & sit in her big living room. I love my small room but to entertain it just isn't big enough: To fix the number of

2] dislike that are right one might as well — its cheaper to invite a larger number, So in one week I'll do my social bit, Martha Wylie is coming from Wetumka over the week end, Elsa can't go, to leave Friday but will manage we've already a number of invites, out for meals + this one we don't get invited for we'll cook or eat at Lydia's,

Mother I'd like to have time to write again before I close it will keep me hustling to get off + do all but I want to get a package mailed to you. I feel so sorry that I was so thoughtless + didn't have this made long ago in time for the cold but you can still use it. I'm so sorry I didn't get it off in now, but anyway it is a padded Chinese garment (cotton + camel's hair), I first thought of a Kimona color + then decided to make it blue — so you can wear it all day in the house. You just put it on + wear it! Don't try to save it. You wear it + keep warm + then This house won't need to be so hot,

3] Wear it all the time & an apron when cooking to save it, I hope you'll enjoy it! How is the size? I used the one that goes over my fur garment as a guide but yours is fuller & longer. I just love the soft warmth of their padded garments; I hope too will like it. Keep warm

The seed pearl beads in the package I got in Japan on the way back. Your beads are old - big then in a knot & wear them. I hope you won't have to pay duty on anything. Really the pearls he just threw in cheaply to induce me to get crystals. I don't recall but they weren't more than $1 gold. It changed 4 yen to 1 gold so don't let them stick you for duty; I'll see whether this replies says it can go as sample post or not.

Had tea today with Mrs Mateer & she had the prettiest Peking China - "Thousand flowers" It is more dainty in color than that I took home.

4] How understand about the check don't you, Count it as 250 of the Leaneta's & 2.50 of your gift to put to report a Stamp money!

Later - The dinner is over & was fine & Martha is here & gone down shopping & I've just come back from seeing M is Hudwalo isn't so very well. Will get the package off tomorrow I think - & get off myself on Mon A.M. Folks have been so nice to me this time & so nice to Martha M & C. went down in the car for her night & will invited out to all the meals but breakfasts while she's here!

Much love Mummie dear, Put all your trust & confidence in the Master Honey mine & don't let things of each day make you sad or upset. He is over all.

— much love Honey mine

Irene

Hsuo Li Chuang
January 30, '33

Dearest Mumsie Mine:

I have been here just a week today & in a couple of days will again be on the road so I want to take the chance to write while I can.

Had busy days after Martha came to Tsingtao — She came on Thurs eve. & just in time for the Chinese feast. We surely did enjoy the visit. There were 18 there at the dinner & the cook did well indeed. We compared it with the feast from a restaurant before. Guess I told that June & I figured we saved $10 or $12 & had a much nicer dinner. Also the weather was cold the fireplaces did nobly & we were comfy. After the dinner there was a concert given by the Philharmonic Society So Martha & I went to it with the Van Beuren's. We were invited out to a number of times so the cook's leaving on Sat only left one day for us to manage

3] go all the time. This time Mrs Tan had come home sick & cold & I was weary So we just stayed in at home & it was so cold anyway no one came & all were busy getting ready for New Year that we surely had a good rest.

Since yesterday the festivities of the wedding began & you would surely would have been interested in all the goings-on. The son of the minister of the family is graduating in June from H.S He is 18. The bride is also a graduate of H.S. We know her too, She was in the class at Taichik Chuang last fall,

The engagement was made by a relative who first thought of the match. She went to the two families & suggested it After all were willing the groom's family sent the engagement document with it a gift of 40 big white flour steamed loaves of bread weighing 1½ lb. each, with gifts of parts including the feet & head shoulder ham

time we were out for meals this. After dural + getting the house all shut up + water drained out of tank we slept at Mrs. Matier's + her cook helped me to the train. It was surely good that he did. My! the ticket line-up was way out in the street. It was surely a blessing that I got on + bed rolled checked — such crowds are traveling at New Year time — all wanting to go home then if ever —.

Came on here by bus from San Simon so had a short ride in the cold. Have two weeks have surely been cold, the coldest we have had this year. Fortunately we have been at home during this very cold time — although that we are out in the cold doesn't matter but they couldn't come out for classes. Today is quite warm again + no wind. It surely is the blessing of the Master — for we had to wear "bridal clothes" + they aren't very warm. It will be fine.

These days I've had a good rest, attending I've come near had meetings + been on the go

4 of the latter (two) at least 25 lb.
The head + the legs the bride's
family could eat all except, they
must be sent back. Then when
the document bearing the
wedding date is sent the
same gifts are sent again.
The the groom family had min
to buy as gifts to send $50.00 max
worth of silk cloth + also a
watch. + a present of $20.00 -
All the wedding preparation
expense is born on the groom's
side, however after from the
20.00 or their own money the
bride's family has to buy the
furniture - (this is what she had)
a large tall chest,
a dressing table mirror
a couple of tables, 2 wooden
trunks, 2 chairs, along with
the smaller things - all in pairs -
2 wash pans, 2 hand mirrors,
2 flower vases, a tea pot + cups,
2 tooth brush cup, 2 combs, 2 brushes,
2 lavoir boxes, 2 soap dishes, a
brush + shoe spoon, powder, toiet
paste, a couple of smaller
wooden boxes. These are
carried on poles on the day of
the wedding to the groom home

5] Miss Fan + I went over to arrange the room. All forgot the most important — the 3 thick cotton padded covers to the mattress + 3 covers. all red or flowered, one was a silk one, 2 sheets + bedspread + 2 pairs of pillows (embroidered + one pair of empty pillow covers.

Fl night before the wedding the band (10 men who blow trumpets cymbals + play + pound the various sorts of drums came for a feast. Miss Fans mother (Third Sister-in-law) entertained them. When one has a big affair like this naturally one has to care for all the guests (16 of the band, 8 carriers for the chairs, the minister, the bridal party) so other families help entertain + then when they have weddings or funerals or more than they can manage they ask that family to pay them back in caring for their guests.

We laughed at 3rd sister-in-law. She was so particular

4] various pieces & then went to another place to eat & drink more & play again. Yesterday morning we went over to see the groom getting his silk long garment on, a new foreign hat, a silk short coat & big red flower pinied on his bosom, after all ready the musicians played, he bowed ceremoniously to us, then went accompanied by music to bow to the various heads of families & gaily decorated then entered the bride's sedan chair was carried off to get the bride. Down there he would to her relatives & bow & then go into her home drink tea & eat cakes & then go to a feast of 18 or more dishes of hot vegetable & meat. Then the two chairs come back here with musicians before & behind. We then went out to invite the bride to come out. They put red blankets on alter kinds down to make a path for her to walk on & we followed the groom out. It was on the street because the

6. There is a saying that if the musicians aren't given good food & treated as 1st class guests (tho they really aren't, as guests are divided into classes & on what they are depends what food they get.) they will play funeral music instead of wedding music & then that is a public disgrace for the one who entertained them also if they are treated well, they won't eat very much but make a few dishes untouched but if they are treated as unimportant guests they will clear up every bit of food! So we had great excitement entertaining them. They first had eight saucers of cold things (peanuts in shiang yu, tai chê a kind of sea food, dried shrimps & big fat jelly fish) then 4 big dishes of fat meat & vegetables & then a bowl each of noodles with vegetables on them In between dishes they played

8] crowd was to great to get into the church. Before a table, as an altar they sat on red covered chairs. The Korean parlor came to marry them - international as eh? After the ceremony - much after ours we led the bride to her newly furnished room, + sat with her on the kang while all the youngsters + collected to ask for cakes. This is a bit like our showers. When groom leaves his feast they ask for his handkerchief + fill it full of cakes which he brings home. Yesterday 3 of younger boys went 3li to meet him to get the cakes. After much tearing the bride pulled out from her sleeve a handkerchief of cakes that were given to the young sters. Then we ate the "poo tzu" that had been carried along with her from her mother's home. Today we have to go again to eat noodles brought with her. She goes today back to her home. They send two mules for the groom + her. But the groom isn't supposed to go. The third day the groom's family send a mule or donkey for her to come back here. She can wear two bright silk garments on these days:

I wore a bright-Belgian sort of blue short garment, black silk skirt + pink silk flowers in my hair!! That's the wedding. Must close - I must write a heap of letters today so wont write more. Please mail these letters. Thanks + I love you all

Irene

Mao chia Ying
Friday Feb. 10, 1933

Dearest mumsie mine!
Just time for a wee visit with you. Tomorrow one of the young fellows from here returns to Sian to relaxal so he can take a letter to you to mail there.
We've just come back from the back street from having dinner with Mrs. Mao. She had planned having us over + bought fresh pork at yesterday's market for the meat dumplings wrapped in white flour — white flour for we were "1st class" guests you see. We had class first + then all helped her prepare the dumplings. You see this is one of the New Year celebration days when everyone eats dumplings. There were five of us helping her one standing on the floor + the rest of us squatting on the kang around

3] their dumplings + we waited to eat ours. First we had a tray with a plate of roasted peanuts + one a cookies + tea then bowls of steaming hot dumplings. We ate promptly + after finished left more promptly so the family could come to the Kang + eat.

We had been looking for Mrs Hsu who had been delayed in Tsingtao by illness for several days and the coach has spent most of the morning (will be part of four days) waiting at the road where the bus goes by but in vain. Today we just were discussing + who should go to see her + she arrived. She had a bowl of dumplings from the family in whose courtyard we live. (the one who sent the big bowl + two small ones. that hung on the Rutherford wall, moderns) So now she is resting while I write + Mrs Tan catnapping I guess the only familiar sights you see in this room would

the long bread board with the pain of vegetable + meat with clap-sticks. The one on the floor rolled out the little round thin flour pats + we put in the vegetable + meat + pinched the edges together. Today I learned a new way to pinch them so when I come home again I'll hope to be able to make real ones for you. I'll tell you this about our sweet pota-to "pootzu" I made at the cabin + she had had end of fun out of it - my not parboiling the bean, as you wanted to Eula. We wrapped ~~a~~ palaw flour ones (a very deep but good large flour-tragant cake) made of turnips, bean curd + ~~doughnut~~ hallow in the center fried in hot lard) cut up. There were for the family of 7 + five children could eat a good many. We had a good time talking as we worked + soon had them all done. Then the others all went to their homes to eat

4] be the Bible shed comin-
quilt & the tin box Eula sent
candy in. We need soon have
to go for clars so I can't write
long.
These days I am been full —
Happy Birthday!
Feb. 17. Here I was interrupted to
go to "meeting" & then daubled
up a couple of days on the
King. Took more of the red
pills than usual this time
but am so it seems that
all the shots & pills are of little
value. Tho some better I guess,
Anyway don't worry any!
Then after I got us meal na
time to write. We went
Monday to look up several who
has fallen by the way so to speak,
How hardened they were. One
young
a widow (no her husband's alive but
gone for years) who at first seemed
so sincere & earnest. She has surely
gone bad! She wasn't baptized &
were glad for she's surely not

a credit. The Buddhist priest was driven out of the village because of his relationship with her — & a relative who first was so sure — has had her husband come home with a little metal Buddha & presented their belongings & the son who was the real believer so busy each day that he couldn't come near. However I feel so sorry for them. When they sent the boy to the graves to worship the ancestors he got another boy to actually burn the paper for him. I've had a long talk with them & the father stayed for it all but they were just lazy!

Miss Lui who was at the class in November since her return has been praying for her grandmother & nephews & her grandmother formerly just adamant now believes &

Today we celebrate
your birthday in a true
Chinese fashion — eat
long noodles so you'll
live to a good old age!!
Girls both send love!
& birthday greetings,
Did the package arrive
in time? How does it fit?
How much duty?

Much love

Jane

6] hope to be baptized,
Ah! we do thank God for
the work of the Holy Spirit
in the group at Macclia
ding! I feel you getting
after sin + sins + the
Holy spirit's conviction surely
does change lives! That group
so cold + lifeless were so
convicted of sin,
Here - they come for the
letter - there is a chance to
send it to a port of call.
Already late I'll just
send it on unfinished.
The enclosed letter pass
around, Oregon city,
Calvary Presbyterian, Portland
Seacoast -
+ Roseburg -
Please

February 28, 1933
Su Ke Chuang

Dearest Mumsie dear;

Am at home this evening while the girls are at meeting. We've just moved to a new place & our supplies are low - so the cook goes in tomorrow to get a supply of medicines, Bibles, & mail & will be able to mail this to you. I'll not be able to write much but at least a note. The girls are at meeting. I had to get off some letters to the station besides this & my dose of Warren's "compound cathartics" have just doubled me up - so all together I was better off at home this evening. The two of them didn't need me so much tonight.

The last messenger brought home letters - a month's pile-up & I surely did enjoy them. Mumsie dear, I don't see why we didn't think of that agreement while I was home to get it signed then - anything you want me to sign I will gladly. I hope that it may have come by now so that the cook can bring it right out & I'll get the girls to practice signing their names in English & to be witness & get it back afterwards it may have to wait until the last of April for me to sign it & that delays too much. Yes, I'm glad to change that. It surely is stupid to have to send anything all the way here & back to sign it. Mumsie, I did leave power of attorney with the Board (perhaps) but they have to have a written order from me to use it. I forget what you meant by what I sent you - Just that to go to the Board?

maybe that's the reason they wrote that they had no power of attorney. I can't seem to recall about that. You see it isn't to be sent on to them. Suppose you have Ray ask them about the power of attorney - You remember I got it signed by a notary there to give them power of attorney. I think they take to have written instructions to to sign for me."

Sorry & glad too about Aunt Ollie's death. - Belle's first was a blow - the latter repeated I had just written a joint letter to her & to Ernie addressed to her. My! we are waiting for us over there seem to be swelling fast. It will be a wonderful reunion, the when we do all meet. I sometimes just get lonely for Heaven then I think of the untouched villages & am sorry to be so selfish!

The last letter to you had rather a hard time getting off. A man took it to a market 15 li away to the post office & for some unaccountable reason they refused it. Whether the English writing (the there were a few characters on it) or the 25¢ stamp frightened them - I can't tell but anyway the letter came back saying that it couldn't be delivered. The next day the cook went to another market & found a man who knew & who took it! You see how it is not easy to get letters out of interior!

I wrote Mrs. Gordon & Aunt Bess a report letter for the S.W. Oregon Presbyterial at Marshfield for April & it has been mailed now four days. I hope it will reach them all in good time!

The time at Changchia Pu was surely full! We had three meetings each day & as soon as class was over we set out to visit the homes of all

3] manner of diseases - but mostly running ears, impetigo, & indigestion — We just were busy all day long, at first the group was so unresponsive & lifeless that they were just like wooden folks. Three men especially were a burden to us. Baptized - but professional gamblers - came to class but returned to gamble. With the exception of them all the rest of the Christians & several non-Christians came to a new sense of sin & a new sense of the freedom of forgiveness.

One young man (I forget whether I wrote of this or not) not a Christian went to a big market & was arrested for gambling. came for a Christian to get him out, & his father scalded him so he went out & bought opium pills & ate them to commit suicide. They brought word to us & fortunately I had met the red Factor book R25, Karaker got me, said to use — So miss Hsu & I went off with it to the rescue. He wouldn't admit he'd taken it till at last they asked at the shop & they told on him. Even this didn't stop these three men — nor the young man. Less than a week had passed & he was back at it again. He lost four or five days there from morning till evening one after another came to the rooms for prayer & confession of sin. We've emphasized sin & the Bible & therefore been the instrument by which the Holy Spirit has brought conviction. Conviction so great that some could not eat nor sleep & were just nauseated! They came to pray & said help them by naming sins & asking if he had that sin — Such a torrent of sin - has been left in lives of baptized Christians all these years — It seems their just quit worship of idols & been baptized & that is enuf! Sins of the heart & conduct not changed at all & with no sense of need or seeking knowledge of sin. The Holy Spirit has surely in the last two places changed lives in a wonderful

4 way. We're gettin past the place of being shocked at all this hidden tatteries - after all the human heart is the same when born - before God. One woman for days past fought with herself over forgiving an enemy of many years. She'd say "all the rest I can forgive but I can't talk to her" At last she did get it thru + promised to make up with her. Several non christians also came to knowledge of Christ. Even now three men are such a burden on my heart. This fall I've come to know what Paul meant when he said "besides all this the care of the churches", "sharing the fellowship of His sufferings" is a glory if He sees us worthy to share with Him but the burden is not easy to carry. My! but I marvel the more than He has chosen me, to represent Him. I am also seeing myself as we this second the scriptures turning over sin for the groups to judge themselves by!

9 P.M. After a miserable night I'm off C.C.'s for life!! Don't worry - mumsie dear! I wonder if your Chine garment fit + if you like it to wear it all the time - springs are cool - the house won't need to be heated but you can be warm. Don't try to save it - wear it + next year I'll send another. That silk was about 40 yard a yard only. The coat must get off soon so I send much love. Matter if you wanted to do the reports that would have been fine. I forgot about Ray's mimeograph, I was trying to solve the problem just in asking them to do it. Thank Portia for the fine - I'll invest it for Him for her. Much much love dearest mumsie mine, I love you so much, You're a sweet precious mumsie, + I hope each day you are happy in Him + much better in health. —

much love - must get up + bathe —.

+ how dear — Irene,

Dear Mamie.

Jointac
March 5-'33

Here I am at home. You'll be surprised to hear from me here I am sure, But I made the trip in to sign the document of power of attorney for Emmett to help clear up sale of bonds etc; When I wrote last & said I'd have the girls sign out there I was forgetting about the necessity of the consular signature & seal. The cook came in for books & supplies & brought Emmett's letter back. It seemed wisest to come then right in as by a two hours ride I could get a bus & if we waited we were getting farther & farther away with more & more difficulty in travel to return, Miss Fay about to take my Bible class of 12 men & 3 women & they will have the church services today. Monday I'll do all of the errands & go back Tuesday A.M. I expected to be able to do some yesterday P.M & go on Monday but the bus was late

2) I had a funny experience coming in. We borrowed a peppy little mule the cook led it + I was riding it no saddle just a padded cover tied on. Whew! it was cold! The little mule just pranced at first not having recently been worked + it also as it pranced it tried to bite the cook! we got along well + it tamed down, about half the way the path went up a very steep incline + the mule got tuckered part way — + decided to go back — I stuck on holding to this blanket but the blanket turned + off I went on to the ground — no ill effects the mule was so little I had far to fall! I walked a while to get warm + then mounted my steed again from a roadside rock + came on to the bus station. Here I waited about 3 hrs. + a made over truck came along — we got to Irvington about five o'clock. I went at once to inquire about Mrs. Conradt who had had an appendicitis

31. and a tumor on the ovary removed. She was very critically ill on Thurs. so I was worried about her. But she is out of danger, Mrs. Mateer retired who is here this year has been in the hospital three times went at it visit out of danger, The Van Beuren's have all been sick with the flu - but are up & better. I have been the "wellest" four in the country at that.

Pastor Wei has come for special meetings & is to have ten days at the two schools, first & then ten days in each of the country churches.

Mrs. Rhenbrect, Luthern, who lives in the other side of the house has just had the sweetest baby girl. I went to see her last night after meeting - she is just precious. Lydia is coming to watch her so soon so I am keeping one eye out for her as I write - won't that be fun to see her batted - a treat I don't get once in years ——.

I stayed over night at Van Beuren's as my water is shut off & it is such a task to draw it - for just the two days. Ruth had supper with Mr. & Mrs.

4] ~~th~~ days. He asked me to come back tonight but possibly I'd better not. One has to be very careful — + I don't want to cause the least talk, Mrs. Vaw said to go last night so I went:

I had quite a trade in the country — a lady had a couple of antique rice bowls, crackle ware with lovely blue figures, the characters on the bottom say this year at Chien Lung, the was in 1800. I had miss Hua ask her + she wanted to trade for my modern thin porcelain bowls — (20 ¢ each) I have it, had thin checked but it isn't likely they are patterns — or present day copies but maybe so! anyway I carried them home carefully yesterday packed in a wrapper of peanuts. Whether they are genuine or not they are a lovely mellow shade of tan with fine crackle + lovely blue — so genuine or not I like them, + She didn't so I don't believe I tipped her. She thought mine nicer, If they ever sold for a fortune I'd share with her! ha! ha!

P.M. Have been to church service & it was good. Have also been to see the batt & been to the Dr. Stone piles are battering again & he advised an operation - I guess from all points of view Will wait till april 20 - 27 that week because in many ways with none there - not even the cash, it isn't advisable. Then Mrs Dow will be here to go with me & things won't be all upset. That may mean a few weeks off in april but seems best. It isn't anything serious you know but just mention it as passing news! It would be good to have the whole station in at once as it would be were I to go now! Now I've signed the paper & done to you all dear. Mummy don't let this worry you it's all in a life time of experiences Let Bud do the worrying —

Love & Irene

Tsingtu, Pu Ho —
March 25, 1933

Dearest Mother Mine & all my family:

It is now 7:30 a.m. & we finished breakfast of millet gruel, sweet potatoes, white bread, white cabbage & beef — a plate of fragrant vegetable & broth, I daw das that sound to you? It was good & so was the early 9 a.m. prayer meeting & breakfast our early. Just as then the first few sentences when I had to stop to wash my teeth, Mrs. Hwo brought the wash pan & our brushes — & the Kaing & we all circled it to brush teeth — We had it finished that little "ceremony" when a Christian woman came bearing a non-christian neighbor daughter-in-law who wants to believe & came for us to pray with her & to confess her sins. She is quite a notoriously "unfilial" daughter-in-law — as she curses her mother-in-law & I think even beats her, & in general is quite a Terragant in the home. She won't called her mother-in-law "mother" but refers to her as "She" merely. Her husband's mother has been coming to church & prays most earnestly. As a result this sister-in-law persecuted him quite a lot & the husband followed suit. The mother-in-law was delighted that she'd come to class & has kept the

2) little one so she could come; for several nights as she slept she would cry out terrible screams & wail terribly. Yesterday in class she called Teacher Li "quickly" & was seen awakened & most clearly told to believe! Last night was the real beginning! She asked for water to forgive & repent & said she wanted to repent & confess! & she has truly repented. Her whole family are delighted — I guess they are glad to have hope of peace in the family! I just hope she can truly be a good witness for Christ. We prayed with her & then the girls went to the back courtyard for class. I was preparing for my class, Mrs Hua came back saying that all but Mr. Kua had to work today — it looks very well for him to come (later) I'd just written a half page & Ms. Lee came & told me a 80 yr. old lady in whose home we are living she just talks a perfect stream. She has already told me all my history all about you all & told me & for troubles & family history & diseases & I'll told her about Jesus & sin & done my best for her now she's rattling away to this two who has come back for an extra. She now is trying to get a word in edgewise with the old lady who has opened the floodgates of questions on her & I'm free to write a few more lines. You see how the days go. My precious few minutes to write to you & all taken up!

3) Would be amused at her. She is just now saying "My! look how she writes so beautifully!" She how beautifully she writes how well she is educated" all of which she has seen from this scribble! Now the cook has come in to prepare (some veg turnips, potatoes all about sitting) dinner, the old lady is continuing about her nephew's wife etc etc!!! etc etc. Oh! She's going home — well see. What next on the scene, I stopped again to teach her to pray—

We came to this place Pulta. nowabout ten days ago. in all our years were not had such a trial physically — all three of us. We were weary when we came. I was able to go for the first meeting & the next two days. The girls were just half weary, they took turns sleeping while the other led the service. Then I piled up with cramps a couple of days & then Mrs Law with a cold & Sue with just followed in order all with it, Mute escaped it, We've taken turns & been ups but not much Before we've had colds, but never like this with all of us so long. The last class was so wonderful in results that Satan surely this time has been doing his best to hinder, matter scheme of his most this. There is in the family here that is the real "prop" of the group a daughter in law of the old lady, who is husband persecutes her & he has a kind of mental trouble — (imagines things), well he was here one night & went home — Because when

4) his wife was at home, She sang & preached to a group who came to their home. Sup- men relatives also came in to hear the Matter. in-law was there all the time. The husband came in drew them there & was angry as could be. Wed been here a couple of days & had gone home when such a letter came to his wife's brother!! His brother quite noted for his high temper & pride, in fact he is feared by all the village here This letter accused the sister of immorality, & of just everything. It was most insulting. A non-christian or merely this Mr. Kuo would'nt take it for a second!! marched us to their rooms to talk us about it Well, we went, Well, it was surely a critical situation. We urged that this persecution was for Jesus sake, that the writer was mentally unaccountable, & that he pray & leave it with the Master. We prayed & felt a real sense of victory in prayer. The next a.m. here the bride so upset at the affair Visitor started off to walk to his home & she planned to first get in the door & in order to shame him & prove herself innocent to kill herself. The old Matter was in tears on one kang & rest of family weeping & the brother trying to keep his anger & pride down! We went over & talked & pleaded & urged & finally a measure of peace was restored. The bride confessed her plan but felt she must go the brothers and if she must not, not go to live with them back over to visit at home. That would be a calamity! We finally persuaded her (here have come patients — so must stop

They were 1. running ear. 2, eyes - 3, worm medicine

5]. 4. castor oil (baby) 5. Baby with running gums after measles.] Now I'll continue — this surely is a long letter as I can recal to say in driving to Pa, Mother do you remember when we ate in the car) that he had had a 'long lunch' —. This little but has spread over 2 hrs. Now dinner is in progress of being done. Miss Law is folding the dried Kaaling stacks under the iron kettle, Mrs Hsu is back from class & folding & straightening a sheet on the Kang in next room — she started it this a.m. & this warm sun now it is just right to fold & flatten & then fold up & set on & it will be ironed [(Would be surprised Law well really) & pound with a slick stick and set to rights]

So continue my story of the family. We persuaded the bride to wait for her brother's decision about returning & finally got all to pitying the man for his mental condition & some peace at last was again restored & we had classes. The brother seemed to be able to let it pass very well. By afternoon he was smiling & that evening we went over to take an apple to the old mother & found she'd been so upset & angry she'd not eaten all day We got her to kneel down & pray for forgiveness for hatred in her heart & then she ate. Supper. By the next day all but a friend came telling of all husband's threats that seemed to be forgotten & the next day or so after letter came from him again. This time all contrition & humility & asking for forgiveness & in every way possible trying to make retribution — even saying

[Mrs Hsu's grandson Tsin-ming Hsu & wife Lan Tien Streets - when Mrs Hsu was not at Christian's]

[c] that he would offer an empty room for a church for worship. How wonderful it was, & how delighted we were. Here all had been riotous over Satan first & then he without any outside pressure writes for forgiveness !! We were surely glad that such an onerous affair could get over so readily. Approve the matter too has changed! formerly it would have meant divorce or maybe a lawsuit - a most family hatred for years! We just praise Him for the power to change hearts & to overcome Satan's Satanic.

This letter may have to wait a few days. The eldest son of this family is daily hauling & when I go to the P.O. Station next time I'll take the letter, Mrs. Coomradt has come out of the operation very well & Mrs. Meier too is better. This time in Durban you remember I stayed with Van Heerden's. They surely were lovely to me. Mr Van got us to have early breakfast with me & took me to the bus in their car. He was even solicitous about my waiting in the cold ——— as if I am not out in it all the time! But it was nice of them to be so solicitous.

They sent (Coomradt's) out a package of mail — four of your letters & some fruit by a messenger. Was so glad to hear

If it had been several weeks that I'd had your letter — all at once to get your wee a big treat, I was all bundled up in covers to perspire to break up my cold, so Miss Tam opened them + held them up for me to read — Each day has been so full — of one demand after matter — You see from this hodgepodge of a letter how interrupted this letter has been, Now it is dark, after dinner another woman came for us to pray with + also a caller bringing gifts of very dear cakes. Hair her daughter in law brought to her from her mother's home — then we stretched out for a wee nap. I got up to make a bit of cocoa for Miss Tam. She love it so we often indulge — it is a real indulgence in this way Our meat + vegetables for a week don't equal milk + cocoa cost but then so we have it. We don't have many indulgences + I don't count this as such, either! Went then to class + after class went further back. Matter you remember my buying the big yellow rubber balls in No. 41 from the man on the street, In it is family of the women there is the old grandmother, her two daughters married but residing at home now, her sons wife, + her two Son's two wives! + their children about 14 in the family. It is an old well-to-do family in which the women do not leave the courtyard. So these women haven't been to school or out to any place these days we forgot the balls but today got them out + Lappy!!! you should have seen the fun! They said it was more fun than they'd had in

8/ a lifetime! We saw races + played games + laughed. They laughed + enjoyed it, my! I've surely these months had more eye-openers on the trials of the woman burdens + the slowness + blackness of heathenism — Sin — no wonder it took the very blood of God Himself to cure + all His patience + love! my! the hard hearts we see these days. + the heart of man is truly the same all over. We with more or less Christian background + Christian standards for the best just have no conception!! I do so wish the "fact finding" commission could see some inside of things + they'd never say that we must pain with what sin has brought in the search for truth!!!

I'm so glad we have a Saviour who can save! He travels is not with him but with folks willingness to accept him. It surely is a joy + privilege. It almost overwhelms me sometimes as I meet with these groups to study the Bible — the vast sense of privilege + responsibility + glory of it! Why! has the chosen me? I see so much pride in myself + so many times a failure to represent him — oh his patience with "his earthern vessels", able to be one fit to be used by him,

Now. Supper has arrived on the heels of the light of a scrumptious repast upon a can of prunes. Well eat. Want you come + eat with us? (next A.M. continuing)

May 26 We hadn't finished finished supper before the

9/ girls came over telling of their sore arms & muscles - Again we started out to meeting carrying the lantern. In the street was such a crowd of folks listening to the tales of a wandering story-teller. They had to give him $1 a day - buy him opium & he tells a story in P.M & in Eve. We went to sleep right away on returning from meeting - now it is just six A.M. Sunday A.M. I got up to lead the prayer meeting - the girls slept. They come just at daylight, at 5!30 meeting was over and I saw a tired man start out with a wheelbarrow with pulled by a little mule to the fields. The days are long & quite warm so it's time to begin the spring farming! Miss Hsu has just gotten up - & mentioned laughing her dream that she had lost her bracelet & some silver crowns + just dreaming of losing next A.M.!

Said that there is a Chinese superstition that one of one's parents will die!

We just had a warm drink, - we've had so many eggs given us that each morning when the water boils we beat an egg in bowl, put in sugar & a bit of cream & then pour in the boiling water & beat it. Try it, It is good.

Thank Aunt Jennie for the poem & Bertha for the $3,00. Yes the other money that she sent I have received but not cashed yet; At Siu Ke Chuang they were subscribing to get a teacher for girl's school & to help with the woman's group. I subscribed $3 Mex for Bertha in it. Then the whole half dead group were so thoroughly awakened - they subscribed $50 when they thought $10 would be the limit & the women & non-christians all together subscribed $5. We surely praised God for his gracious work there.

Good for you Minnie dear, out to lecture on China. I was real interested in your Brownsville trip, the girls were pleased you took the banner.

10/ Hope that they will be able to really do something! Your room is pretty full isn't it. I can't remember the last time you had meal at Carrie's besides big furniture. Then you had rice visit at Buds. My I do pray that his job will continue — You understand about the $5 check mumie dear You make out $3.50 + rent to Janeck for the reports + the other $3.50 you keep for me. When you send reports use it. I'm glad that they will take care of the report. Likely by now they have been sent out. Was so glad to hear about all the folks there. So sorry for human point of view about Bee! It is expected such a thing. I'm sorry for him + the little baby girl! Who knows? Please give all my sincere sympathy — Sorry I didn't get my letter off to that little group before she left them but she is now where she does not need it. How marvelous! — Please give my regards to all there + thanks for praying!! I'll miss the days fasting for me this summer!! (must get up + bathe + wash the wash pan! If water will be called) That was Sun A.M. — Now it is Tues. noon. I have had my time to finish nor add to this since then. I'll take you over the two days. We got up + suddenly had the idea of going with the group of Christians to a place 15 li away (3 miles) where there was a quite famous minister to hear him + to give this group a chance to have a church + worship with another Christian group. See they mostly are one family - the women have first worshipped in their own courtyard & never been away to worship, not the ~~car~~ to this theater about a cart. We were afraid of this refusal for their family is very strict of the old conservative type — We were delighted when the

11 Isaak came back saying he'd gone to borrow a cart. So we hurried up breakfast & before long we were in the big carts drawn by a horse & a mule, ten women of us with the men walking. The girl who hasn't a husband's home in the family (here I've translated a Chinese expression & that's why that sentence is so queer) She is nearly thirty & not married nor engaged I should say. Three years ago the girls were there & this girl then first time in years went out of the courtyard. This Sunday was the first time since she had been outside the village — outside her courtyard — It was the first time in her life she'd seen a big market as we passed thru a market village on the way. We started out with a threatening of heavy rain - but we went on & by the time we reached the church it was called. We got there for about half the service. It was so nice to meet old friends (It was here that we had breakfast & I said out again the captives) Sawtee Karcau, Miselin, who is the first woman missy sent by Korean women's offerings to China. It was so good to see her. The Elders wife took us to her home & she prepared food for us. Cabbage & bean curd & meat vegetables, white flour & cakes & millet soup! After church services they were in a hurry to get away so we all piled in our "chariot" & the two Lees. That night we had such a good service at home.

Monday we got up & packed. Our big temptation is to get impatient over so much luggage but this time we weren't. After we'd packed all met for a church service & the Master surely blessed. Then little services then we took a picture & we just giving out flower seeds when Rev Lin & Conrad came along - We had a big visit - then after dinner

12] we had seven to be catechised + 3 were baptized. We had communion service. The service was about half over they came from Hwai Lin with a big cart for luggage. They went ahead of us + then Mr. Conradt took us in luxury (in his ford) in just a few minutes to the village 5 li away. We got here just at dark + were received most cordially by the family. They are quite well off - an old lady 73 who so resembles Aunt Anna, her son + 2 grandsons, a daughter. We have quite a nice place to live - their new court yard - four rooms. In the center room be put in for us a big iron kettle to cook in + we have two rooms with all the bride's new furniture + clean white walls. It surely is a joy to have such a convenient clean place. Yes, we had services yesterday + this A.M. just in Service Rev. Conradt came again to have communion service, etc. So I am sitting on kang writing furiously so he can take this with him to Sui to-day. It is just dark for us to get a letter off + Hwai go to-morrow. Must close + go to supper. Much much love - I'm like going to postpone the operation I spoke of. So don't worry about it! So glad your garment fit. We can't all the time - especially in cold - now spring when they won't need a fire! Don't some of it at all but get use of it. This is a postmarks letter - some of your letters not answered but later all now I've time for.

Much much love, Irene

April 11, 1933
Yang chia miao
Piingtu Shantung

My Precious Mummie dear!

It has been a couple of weeks since I wrote the last rambling letter; I'll attempt another; It will be a question again of getting it to Tsingtao but perhaps I can get it sent. anyway I'll begin a visit — as I'm a bit of quiet this P.M. The quiet may not last longer than it takes me to say so but I'll attempt it — just so, I had to rawlaff our Sigh Kang to open the courtyard gate for the coals! I really think I've lost the ability to write a respectable letter!! We came to this place Saturday eve; they sent two wheelbarrows for our things + we walked 1 mile. We had a big send off; all the group gathered in the west courtyard + we had prayer Then we left with all salaaming — with our repeated protestations "I'd return home" as far as the city gate! [Here I've just had a conflab with the coal[man]!] The 70 + 80 year old scholars (Confucian sages) in my days escorted us with great dignity to the city gate + we left them + the older ladies there. How we had groups to leave this, group — really just like Ezekiel's valley of dry bones called to life spiritually speaking, of this I'll speak later, however, A group of

If the younger women escorted us all the way to the high embankment before this village wall + then about in tears they left - we to go on + they to water till we were out of sight!
We came thru the big brick gate of this newly built village wall with Mr. Wang (70) leading us to an entirely different surrounding.
As we came in our new abode - it, seemed pretty dark + not very inviting, See we'd just left a new unsmoked brick room with white walls + bright red new furniture So this old building with its dark walls seemed darker, the old gentleman moved out to let us have his kang - some set about to make it liveable!
We pasted the pages of "Time" donated by Mr. Dowthewen all around the edge of the matting on to the wall + over the window sill. Tore off the old paper on the window + put on fresh, leaving a big space for air. Put my green dirt cloth over the end of the table emptied out for us - with string + nails put up a "towel rack" - got down a four legged frame from its place on the rafters for our mutual + the other and for the work pan - hung asleep

3] up. for a door. Spread our mattress & covers on the Kang & it seemed quite homey & not so dark at all.
In meantime the cook had borrowed here & there the wooden rack for the big iron kettle, a straw cover so we could steam bread, bought dried Kaoliang for fuel, Miss Hua saw the kettle cover seeming had not been scrubbed for years so it got a good scrubbing — By night we were hungry enough to eat & warm enough to rest!! We just got straightened out when a crowd of not too respectable men & youngsters collected outside the gate making all sorts of not very proper remarks, etc.!! This kept up for some time & at last it was quiet. This is the first time we've ever had this kind of disturbance all these years. The second night it was milder & last night after we told Heald Mr. Wang & he talked to them there was no disturbance at all. This has made us more careful about locking the gate for Sometimes men come in just to pester trouble & we have to be very careful!
Sunday A.M. we slept a bit later than usual but by 9:30 we were out on the street. (Would laugh at my bath room, the light wool pieced had breakfast, dressed

4
-quilt top - Mrs. Warner gave me pinned with safety pins from a nail + to the string for the towels + held aside by putting in a can we found here makes a roomy roof - stain in a galvanized pan + have a wash board for a batt mat - first hot + then a cold sponge - all luxury I'll tell you]

Sunday was the day for the worship at the temple just across the street. There is a small market in connection with it which draws a few men but the worshipers are mostly old ladies - many white haired one would have come on little bound feet for miles to burn paper + incense. We went in to the side room + here the roof had caved in + the idols with heads off, arms off, + all, were a mass of the mud they are made of. Fay is one idol called "Body Incomplete" - has about every disease one can have, lame, blind, hunchback, boils, sores etc - Here there were seven or eight strings of shiny salty carrots + white bread strung to heads + offered very reverently with paper + incense + laid to the ground. This is to cure the cough children get from eating too salty vegetables. Pineapple comets

5] ~~this~~ this wreck of an ugly idol for all diseases, - They promised ~~to~~ toured to come each years to worship. Its marvelous resists a to disease of the chest + long Sunny days with medical life in the open has much to do with ~~the~~ keeping the popularity of the idol!

As we went in an old lady 73! was burning paper in the courtyard + made a circle around it - This is to insure none of the blessing escape! We gather by the hundred (Now April 22 + I'm at home Tsingtao) [the letter was unavoidably delayed at that point after remonstrating with and by two + then I decided to go on from there] ~~and~~ live to the larger courtyard where the crowd of men, women + children had collected to see the queer foreigner hear the victrola + the preaching. We put the old lady near the front + she was surely interested every minute. The sun was pretty bright so we all added another coat of tan. Since last fall I've not lost mine so I'm not such a "scary white" as I was on return. The crowd listened to Miss Taw for over an hour then we went inside to have a brief service with the few men + fewer women Christians. We felt surely the great contrast of the warm close fellowship of the former group + the cold strangeness of this place. Not a woman had come near to help us get

to get settled now even to see us except one just as we were leaving for the church who said she was a baptized Christian. After meeting we had our dinner + a little sleep + what joy we felt to hear the loved voices of the ones we'd left the day before out before the gate; those old ladies, + some of younger men, about ten in all, had walked the 3 li (1 mile) to come for afternoon church service. My! we were glad It was not easy for the two especially 70 or more year for the younger as their feet are all small. They were quite indignant at the place we were given to live. We sent the one woman we knew out to find the other supposedly Christians but she only found a few. We had church + about sundown went half-way back with those who had come from Hsiao Chin. We hated so to see them go — "the aunt anna - old lady" with whom we'd lived first insisted I go back with her — but we did not.

Monday we got up to go to a village 5 li away, for the day. We inquired the way + walked thru the growing fields of wheat a few inches high.

7] This little group has just begged us to come for a long stay we could not just then. However we'd promised to go for one day so went before we'd opened classes at Yang Chia Miao where we were living. We had not gone far when we were met by two men, one old + one in teens from that village, Pi Lien's a Mr. Lin who travels from place to place / travels Sounds rather grand. He walks really carrying his tools for repairing almost anything + things to sell on the ends of a pole. He had gone last year to this village + preached as he worked. An interested group asked where they could hear more, + were sent to the group at Pu Ho - from which I wrote the last letter. / Here we also saw them + promised this visit. The young man told us how others had made fun + his father had disapproved but he seemingly was just firm in his decision to believe. We went on + the two women came to meet us + led us to their homes. We had tea on the Kang + then went to the far east end of the village where we could have meeting - One thought of the Pied Piper of Hamlin as we went along the street, from houses + courtyards they came, As we went we called to those on the street +

8] So they came. The large rooms well crowded — almost all of the women of the village. Before the meeting was over an old lady over 80 with white, white hair came in. After it was over we talked with her & discovered that Miss Hsu had seen her before at one place & Sid remembered. She was a leader of almost all of the village women in worshipping Kuan Yin P'u Sa. This idol is quite popular. It has its added social feature, once each year all the members are entertained by each member: so they have the food besides. We plead with her & talked — She felt no sin only talked her virtues — We went to her courtyard & talked with her daughter-in-law — She seemed a bit more convinced. How they called us for dinner. They surely had done their very best to entertain us & to what they made want so appetizing they had "spent heart" & money & given us their best. There was another old lady on the street we talked with — She was humble. all her answers were — "Oh! is that so I didn't know" "I didn't know" How I wish few words could pierce the hearts of those who sleep in their own self-satisfaction or

Il group of newly-born abiding Christian witnessed to the change in their hearts + what joy + new life had come to them by confession of sin + repentance! Our group by Sun. had some become convicted + were so burdened for sin that their witness came just at the right time. Sunday night after class several said that they just couldn't carry their sins longer! -the time had come to help them-

Monday, Tues. Wed — other visits two or 3 or more and I were at home all day with one after the other coming to pray to confess sin to god. We have found so far this is the best way - to help them pray + to suggest sins + ask if that has been cleared up or they are willing to change. Intensive personal work!

Praise Him! the Bones did live again! Practically all the baptized members came to a new life in Him, + one whole family in which a son only formerly believed. The old father came so humbly to pour out his heart! That day was rejoicing indeed!

Mr Wang, baptized 20 yrs or so, had a most decided change! He

10 said he just couldn't leave his pipe at all & formerly before a church service he'd smoke several pipes so he could sit thru, after he'd confessed his sin (tho we had not particularly emphasized smoking) he forgot to smoke - after supper he realized he hadn't smoked & didn't care to. The next a.m. he thought he'd try it — he was so dizzy he had to lie down & vomited his breakfast. That was his last, he said at last witness service he said he didn't know where he'd left his pipe. That is only one of the outer evidences of the new power within. All of Mr. Wang had some experience & numbers also have had!!

We've got to come to a new realization of sin & purity! Oh, the joy of those days & of the precious of Christ to bear all the sins. Oh! as I bear heart after heart poured out & look at my own with God's eyes the more I marvel at the grace of God & the more I realize the to save men & to change hearts it must take the very life of God! on the cross!

11 at the former village — Christian Church. There was a most striking conversion of a Non-christian young man. He was just a prodigal of the prodigals in every way! The Holy Spirit, himself, first called + held him. He was wearing cloth + in daytime didn't come near. In fact a christian asked him + he said "Who wants to hear that stuff"! but finally he couldn't sit still he had to come, he went to a couple of night meetings + then one A.M came to Bible class looking miserable "Mrs Tan, he said to me, "I'm just so miserable the cause of sin I'm first all Sin + I can't bear it! I want to confess my sins! I didn't urge him at all — that has to be spontaneous. — He got up one morning at 4 to go to market before class. When he came in I said "I thought you'd gone to market" then he said- I couldn't miss class, He confessed his Sins + "he who is forgiven much loves much" I believe. It was true of him! On Spring festival day — afraid, dressed up in women's clothes + joined the group of stilt-walkers who at certain festivals entertain on the street. He came late to class with his head low — that night he got up + said — Today my joy left

12] me because I have sinned! I drank wine, I walked on stilts + I was angry! Please all pray for me." The next day I asked him who told him the stilt-walking was sin. He said "nobody. I knew it myself! Peter with his faults + forgiveness have been such a blessing to this lad. After we left he was angry + beat his wife. But immediately he knelt before her for forgiveness. As a result of his witness this whole family (even Christian) came to confess sins + have repented! The second brother who came home the day we left there testified to the change in that family. She came home + would not have her husband's Bible on the table. A week later she came to us wanting to confess sin. She said formerly the envy, anger, strife + unhappiness of the home was just awful but now all was changed + she wanted to believe! I could just write on + on at these changed lives! Those dear old men in my class were so precious. They were so humble + so receptive. They had it even known to ask the blessing beforehand.

13] not to speak of really knowing Christ! Here all of the Christian groups as well as the non-Christian family came to know Him!

I'll close this letter!

We got home on the 21st after getting up at 3 a.m. to get the day train home. All the dirt I found. Sure January! I cleaned & cleaned - got a bath & went to Conrad's for supper. Yesterday Sorted, put in order unpacked all that goes with moving! P.M. was so weary I slept. Last nite a station meeting. Today Mr. Vaw is taking some friends to the mts to see the cherry blossoms & asked me to go. I felt guilty not to get your letter off & about decided not to go but instead I got up at 5 to write. It is now nearly eight so I'll hurry this off.

Mother, I see now that I have taken out Butt's fine (it was in the country mail) that it made to you so I'm returning it. I can't cash it. You send me another cash it personal check for it. Thanks.

Three letters waiting me here on my return & I am glad to know

14) that all are well but my ...
am sorry to hear of the bank
trouble & the earthquake etc.
Surely! we are nearing the
time of His return! all to be
ready not to be left to be
in the great tribulation!
glad they like your chum's dress
wear it! The package of soap
has been at Capraol's I just
got it yesterday! Thank all
please very much, Oh few had
names on them, Mrs Schuler,
Mrs Stanley, Mrs Cooper, but
am just as grateful to them with
no names. Mrs Cooper sent two lovely
towels! Glad the berries aren't
a hundred at least if not any
benefit - taken out Thats good!!
I have so many letters I ought to
write but can't So thank the
Woodburn friends. I know their
prayers are bringing all this
new power + blessing, Thank the
one for the 25 ¢ gift, It will help I love,
I've just glanced thru your old letters,
I'll close now, I must get some
breakfast + another letter off before
I go — much much love. I'm so
sorry to be so delayed writing!! all
I know I love you do keep them all
praying, Love to all - Eula Ray + Ralf - Bud + Bess +
Love, Margie + Warren
Enoch + Robert + Ella + George

At Home
May 7, 1933

My Precious Matter Mine:

Since I last wrote you I have gone to the country + come back for a week of local Council meting + now I'm getting off tomorrow back to King chia chuang on the early (7 o'clock) train to be gone until wheat harvest near the middle or last of June. Missions meeting is here on June 9.1— for a week so I must get back before it. Please do pray very especially. I'm to give a 45 min talk based on II Cor. 3. "This Ministry Transforming Lives" on the 22. The girls are at King chia chuang now. I went with them over Sun. + had to come in but will return for a couple of days before we move on. I am taking many pictures on this trip hoping this summer to write some + to send one folder of pictures of a complete trip. Some have come out very well.

Today is Sun, I'm just resting in bed - the pace has been just too fast - with two nites of meetings etc. I'll go over for the foreign church service at first but first want to visit with you. I have your letters and Mary before me. I've written since but had answered these, No, matter the Martha I speak of was not on furlough with me. You'll hear more after I expect as we're planning some vacation time together this summer.

Yes dear, I'll give your message at once to all.

Matter dear! did you ask Franck to print as many letters as you had on that list that you sent to me? Did you mail them out or did they? Then did you send their 2.50 back to them to cover expenses. Have got the revised list of names, of about 150 that I made out like & wrote on yellow paper - didn't you? My! This you sent me must

3/ have 700 names, many are duplicates (I mean maiden & married names too) I don't think we ever can keep up so many + besides the Board sends some you remember, If you asked Isaack to do so many no wonder they were slow + swamped. Minnie precious, what a trouble I am to you- all that lovin patient work writing out that list of names, not to speak of anything else!! If so many must have reports we'll have to ask some the first 150 to return theirs a record but I'm sure it must be out. The list I sent from here has the essential ones on it I I'm sure for some that they must be waste basket material as there are some in years with no reply. Your sweet precious mummy You are so much I wish I could kiss you right now! Thank you for all the trouble. I must write

4) the Leaneck group!
The bank holidays + continued
bad depression news comes from all sides
+ all countries. I was in a
store yesterday + the prop a
german was telling a frau,
he paid 40.00 for 1½ doz
little silk bloomers + 37.00 duty!
American $'s gold mens bedroom
slippers have to sell here for
$16.50 — no wonder the Chinese
can't buy foreign goods!
It surely is a time of world-
wide trouble! — may we all
just be closer to Him!!
Am so grateful for those dear
ones who pray so faithfully for
me! Their prayers are being
heard — tell them to keep on!
I'm thinking of a letter Jane
the group that "Bee" was in,
I promised them + I will
still. Tell Ruth how much
the S.S. pictures are prized +
how the dish towels are just
wonderful. I stack out a
pack of bandages the other

5/ day & thought again of all their loving sacrifice & help!
I can just see the boys after their bath down to hear the ball game! Is they still practise? — under compulsion?? I'd surely love to see all of you, & have the boys bounce up to give me such a welcome as when I returned from Enterprise that night! Go to the cabin & fix for me boys! & eat huckleberries!

What was done with that Becker man after or to cause that confession?

You spake of working in the yard. I saw the most gorgeous garden at the Weimer Mission a couple of days ago! I've distributed almost all of the seeds. I have some for this trip & for next years. I have at last, (I have so little time in to garden) got a few beds made & good dirt bought & yesterday a.m. we planted. It will be a wonder if they grow &

7] will likely be a scream! if they do - put some of those seeds I didn't know so just put some of all in circles in the bed!! Someone will water for me!! So par there's are raspberry ling - glad at last you got a grey hat. How didn't discard the lovely flower covered crowd one did you?. It will be pretty as long as it hangs together!! I am surely glad if my letters help anyone - I feel I've let down so in that - I've just no time to write! So glad you've enjoyed going out to the many societies! Hope Mrs. Swope is better, Your last letter (Apr. 5) puzzled me - I couldn't remember what I had referred to when I said I'm off C's for life!! It must have been just after a dose of "Compound Cathartic" pills! It has just come to me! Not much of a subject for letter - is it? Ha!

8] I do wonder how this open door is affecting all. I hope somehow it can be overruled. I stick to God in some things just lets man go his own way to help him to wake up to himself the sooner. Yes isn't it too wonderful to be true that the Master has so restored Helen + Mrs. McKee. I just feel so happy about her!

I did enjoy Norma's letter so much! She is just a dear — mumie dear — Now it is after church + Supper is over + we're about packed up to go. The rooms are put away + davenport covered with an old sheet + the rooms begin to look deserted — + will be until June.

This time last time there was a death in the foreign community. Kaufmans + Dalziels mission. Lost a little girl with diptheria + scarlet fever. They had to make the coffin + all. It came just the first day of our meetings. ei. open in + out with rain.
She told how in her dimness she

9. Lad had such a beautiful dream. She said she'd dreamed of playing with ever + ever so many children + it was so lovely! She probably is too, now.

Mr. Lautenschlager was here of our mission in Soviet, as a guest of + at the invitation of the government lecturing to middle school students, to Lions club Tea (wives included) to government officials etc'. It was dealing with International problems + League etc. One A.M. gave a good talk to (2) middle 2 School here in the little chapel in this same courtyard.

One noon had the Chinese delegates in for a meal + unexpectedly invited two extra - Well, the dinner was late, nearly two before they got here + they were hungry! Well I never had such a time! I thought they'd not get enough to eat at all. I had to send out twice for bread! Everything was eaten

just clean. Usually it isn't at all polite to so polish the plates - She knew however that I wanted them to eat but I was just in fat water She apologized for eating so much & so for having more. The next day after that when we had the foreigners all here we had too much. The cook wasn't to be caught so again! Then Friday Eve I went to a beautifully served, well ordered dinner Mrs. Van had for some quite wealthy high-up Chinese guests. To be with a Miss Haw. The rest were couple. There I met a Mrs. Hsun wife of one of Chinese banks Lore a recent bride & we played tennis saturday. It was very interesting to meet this group as they were all talking of govt & inside affairs & most all spoke excellent English - a contract to my country friends.

Yesterday after tennis - had tea for Mrs. Hsiin - we sat on the davenport with the little tea tables. Her private car had sufficiently impressed the cook that he did his part nobly.

11] We had cakes, candy, salted peanuts + yuan loiao (They are little rice flour balls with sugar walnuts, + sesame inside) just delicious. I found a spot to get some delicious candy - I had been to dentist Sat a.m, + was hot + hungry. I found chocolate coated mints + walnut balls $2.20 per lb. (I just got 1/4 lb) + as I walked along slipped one in my mouth + oh it was good all the way to my toes! Hadn't had any since my Christmas boxes. got some nougat $1.80 per lb. You see why I seldom buy it.

We had a liqueur of Local Cannis — the best spirit ever I've known. We had to replan on a "project plan of 3 years" + to project much with cuts is like bricks without straw. However it will be a blessing in the end. We had had a few per cent cut + redudgeted once +

12] now another 10% which we had again to refigure. One or two things will suffer but all will be for best. I'll bet that the comm. knew too that we had had. counting a new ruling on exchange about a third cut in salary helped them too to take the cut.

It's nine now. I have to write a report & pack up my packages & lock up valuables. This time I brought no suitcase & we'll take what we have to tied up in one of the dishtowels. We have one filled with four big oranges - & some rubarb! (You remember how I like that) & I'll have one with odds & ends. Those towels are so big they held a lot! Mrs. Van served me over for breakfast but I had enuf left from supper. Mr. C. offered to motor me to station but I refused, need not bother him, and Nicholas's burros less gasoline! They surely are all peachy to me — as nice as can be.

There were two British naval officers at church today. A cruiser-big warship is in the harbor. An English lady - Mrs. Lester asked all there for a sing tonight & all the sailors sure is getting off to the country & waited to get this off to you —.

How precious you all are my dear ones! Mother you just must'n struggle over reports so. Do tell me how many you sent! That must be cut that big list. Thank Ruth for typing my letters & you all! all. Much much love to all —

Irene

Forty 8 obs
Response to Arrangements